

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: October 1, 2007
Week ending: September 30, 2007
Volume: 27-07

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Weather: Temperatures continued to drop slightly throughout most of the State. High temperatures ranged from 86 degrees in Medford, down to 64 degrees at the Astoria/Clatsop station. Low temperatures ranged from 44 degrees in Portland, down 18 degrees in Worden and Christmas Valley. Precipitation received toward the end of the week increased soil moisture and was welcomed by all except for hazelnut and grape growers. Florence received the most precipitation with 2.68 inches followed by 2.28 inches in Aurora. Most stations along the coast and in the Willamette Valley received more than an inch of rain with only three of the forty-three total stations not receiving any precipitation at all.

Field Crops: Spotty showers in north central Oregon meant that growers faced different planting conditions for small grains. The promise of rain in the forecast had some growers deciding to wait a few days, while others have dusted in their crop. There were some crusting concerns due to sporadically hard rain in some fields that had yet to emerge. In western Oregon, rain by week's end shut down some field operations. Rain should help newly planted crops. Farmers have finished grass seed planting and were fixing to start their spray programs. High wheat prices have many looking at wheat for a 2008 crop. Still some haying being done in southern Oregon. Harvest activity continued in Malheur County where rain was mostly just a threat.

Vegetables: Vegetables were in full production across the State. Pumpkin harvest was beginning in some areas and will increase as the cooler weather continues. Truck gardens were reporting the availability of designer winter squash. The wet weather caused some of the corn and cauliflower crops to be harvested in muddy conditions. The carrot seed harvest completion was also delayed because of recent rains.

Fruits and Nuts: Wet weather late in the week was not welcomed by hazelnut growers or those harvesting grapes. Summer pear and apple harvest was complete. Later apple and pear varieties continued to be harvested and were available through local venues, as were some late peaches and apricots.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses continued to be busy preparing fall vegetable and decorative starts. Nurseries were still busy with stock care, feeding, and watering. Sales of balled and potted plants continued last week.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Soil moisture and dry land pasture conditions improved with the late-week precipitation. With snow falling on higher elevations, ranchers began moving cattle from rangelands to fall and winter pastures. Calves are being weaned and either shipped or moved to backgrounding operations. Livestock continued to remain in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/30/07

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	28	42	30	0
Subsoil	28	41	31	0

Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/30/07

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	18	30	33	15	4

Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/30/07

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	55	20	54	28
Winter wheat emerged	26	2	23	9
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	6.6	6.9	-

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON\LINN\LANE: The weather has been a bit colder than normal. Temperatures were down near 32 degrees last week. One area has frozen twice already. Plums and cherries are done. Stanwick peaches are still being picked. Summer pears are done and winter pears are still being picked. The apple harvest is nearing completion. Some late blueberries are being harvested while raspberries and blackberries are mostly done. Vegetables are in full production and are at local stands along with apples and peaches. There are lots of pumpkins. Pumpkins and winter squash are being picked and distributed. Farmers have pretty much finished with the grass seed planting and are getting ready to start with their spray programs.

CLACKAMAS: There was heavy rain beginning Thursday night. The heavy rain continued Friday with very close lightning and thunder and hail in the late afternoon. This storm would be called a Gully Washer on the East Side. By Sunday evening my rain gauge had over two inches since Thursday.

COOS\CURRY: Low temperatures were below the 5-year average this week in both Coos and Curry counties. Highs were about 2 degrees below the 5-year average in both counties. Precipitation started late in the week in both counties, with nearly 1 inch on Sunday. There was fog in the mornings in the coastal valleys. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 40.95 degrees, 3.2 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 67.24 degrees, 2.1 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.45 inches over 3 days (0.95 inches on Sunday), compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.04 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 59.25 inches, 13.25 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through September is 60.40 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 46.06 degrees, 1.11 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 71.0 degrees, 2.18 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.28 inches, compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.08 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 81.34 inches, 0.91 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through September is 73.48 inches.

JACKSON: Some fall grain was being planted. There is still some haying being done. However, the rain last week halted most activity and what was down got wet. The pear and apple harvest continued. Grapes are being harvested as sugars reached the needed levels. There are still a lot of good vegetables to be harvested, as harvesting continues. Corn, tomatoes, green peppers, cabbage, squash, and now some pumpkins are showing up. Greenhouses are busy getting out fall vegetable starts, and lots of fall decorative starts. Nurseries are busy with stock care, feeding and watering. Some fall sales of balled and potted.

Livestock are looking quite good. We had some welcomed rain this week that should help pastures. Most farmers are busy with the harvest and fall ground preparation. Some fall planting continues. Ranchers are busy with irrigation and getting ready to put cattle on fall and winter pastures. Some calf weaning is occurring and some are being shipped or moved to backgrounding operations. Of course that means shots and branding or tattoos. The week has seen quite a change in the weather. There was some light rain, but days and nights are much colder. There was even some snow at higher elevations, mostly above 6000 feet. We needed the rain for fall plantings, and for fall pastures to start growth.

JOSEPHINE: We had a beautiful fall week with mild temperatures during the day and the night. Friday we had a quarter of an inch of rain. Sunday it rained hard all day with 1 inch of rain or better in most areas. The week showed a lot more grapes being harvested and toted to the different wineries in the area. Some pumpkins are being harvested now and with the cooler weather we will see more. Truck gardens have a lot of the designer winter squashes available now. A lot of the old standbys just aren't seen in our area except in home gardens. Our season isn't long enough for banana and hubbard. They just don't mature well here. The same goes for the larger melons. Those with home orchards have apples ready now.

LINCOLN: Rain this weekend helped increase available moisture.

MARION: Fall has definitely set in and ground preparation and planting continued until rains began later in the week. Significant rainfall by week's end shut down most field operation. Newly planted crops should get a good growth boost from the rains. However, some crops such as tomatoes are sensitive to too much moisture. Those crops needing to be harvested timely, such as corn and cauliflower are having to be harvested in muddy conditions. High wheat price (\$10.15 per bushel in Portland this morning) has many producers looking at planting wheat for a 2008 crop.

POLK: It was dry up until the end of last week. It was very wet over the weekend with one plus inches of rain in areas.

YAMHILL: Everyone but grape and hazelnut growers were glad to see the rain come this week. Harvest started for both hazelnuts and grapes this week and the rain will cause problems for both. The rain, however, will help fall planted crops as well as the perennial crops that need a good drink of water to get some growth started going into winter. Pastures needed a good soaking as well. The hazelnut harvest is in full swing. The rain at the end of the week may slow harvest operations if it continues for several days.

EASTERN OREGON

GILLIAM: The rain Friday and Sunday improved planting conditions in some areas. There were some crusting concerns due to sporadically hard rain in some fields that had yet to emerge.

HARNEY: On average, daily high temperatures were five degrees cooler than normal. Rain and snowfall at high elevations were received throughout most of the area over the weekend. Although moisture was received over the last two weeks, fall pastures have been slow to green-up because of lower than normal temperatures.

HOOD RIVER: Fair weather prevailed through the week. The winter pear and apple harvests continued throughout the Hood River Valley.

JEFFERSON: The carrot seed harvest is almost complete. Today's rain will delay the final seed harvest.

KLAMATH: The fourth cutting hay is down. The potato harvest is under way. There have been cooler fall temperatures and there was rain during the week.

LAKE: We received precipitation during the week with some snow in higher elevations. Livestock producers started to move cattle home from rangeland. Some producers are still trying to put up the third cutting.

MALHEUR: Harvest activity continues. Rainfall was mostly just a threat. Very little moisture if any and conditions were windy and cool.

SHERMAN: Grain seeding continues in a stop and go fashion. Soil is dry in some fields but has okay moisture in others. Some growers started dusting in this week. Small showers this morning and the promise of rain this weekend have most growers stopping and waiting to see what the moisture level does over the weekend. It also gives them an excuse to deer hunt this weekend.

UMATILLA: Weekend rains provided for well needed moisture for dry conditions. Soil moisture is still needed.

UNION: Fall has arrived with night temperatures below freezing early in the week. Trace precipitation was received late in the week.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 30, 2007 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	40	64	53	-5	22	-24	1.19	0.35	3	1.75	-1.16	60	9
Bandon ⁸	41	67	55	-2	35	-10	1.45	0.97	3	1.83	0.14	108	11
Crescent City	41	70	53	-6	19	-36	0.89	0.36	2	1.16	-0.59	66	3
Florence	34	71	51	-8	13	-46	2.68	1.94	3	3.83	1.35	154	7
North Bend	39	66	53	-5	23	-30	1.76	1.24	3	2.26	0.46	126	6
Tillamook	36	70	53	-4	23	-20	1.49	0.42	3	1.81	-1.95	48	8
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	40	76	55	-4	38	-20	2.28	1.79	3	2.77	0.96	153	6
Corvallis	34	78	54	-5	32	-29	2.27	1.85	3	2.70	1.19	179	5
Detroit Lake ⁸	37	80	54	+2	35	+3	2.31	1.68	3	2.55	0.29	113	6
Eugene	32	80	54	-6	30	-38	1.31	0.89	2	1.53	-0.14	92	4
Hillsboro	34	73	52	-7	16	-38	1.30	0.89	2	1.55	0.04	103	6
McMinnville	37	76	55	-5	36	-25	1.49	1.03	3	1.86	0.22	113	6
Portland	44	75	56	-5	47	-23	1.64	1.22	2	1.96	0.21	112	7
Salem	39	77	56	-4	41	-17	1.94	1.52	3	2.46	0.91	159	5
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	37	85	57	-6	48	-34	0.24	-0.04	3	0.47	-0.43	52	7
Medford	38	86	57	-6	51	-31	0.43	0.22	2	0.46	-0.40	53	5
Roseburg	40	83	57	-4	53	-23	0.61	0.33	2	1.05	-0.09	92	5
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	30	82	52	-3	28	-6	0.12	-0.02	2	0.16	-0.57	22	4
Echo ⁸	38	79	56	-3	44	-18	0.21	0.14	2	0.26	-0.18	59	5
Heppner	34	81	54	-4	38	-14	0.09	-0.10	2	0.44	-0.36	55	4
Hermiston	35	81	55	-4	39	-23	0.13	0.06	2	0.14	-0.30	32	3
Madras ⁸	30	82	52	-4	25	-19	0.22	0.14	2	0.47	-0.07	87	7
Moro	32	82	53	-3	32	-10	0.15	0.07	2	0.24	-0.30	44	4
Parkdale ⁸	32	78	51	-6	17	-32	0.39	0.11	3	0.40	-0.74	35	4
Pendleton	38	80	54	-6	30	-33	0.23	0.09	2	0.24	-0.35	41	3
Prairie City ⁸	30	82	52	-4	25	-19	0.22	0.14	2	0.47	-0.07	87	7
The Dalles	41	80	58	+2	57	+10	0.39	0.30	1	0.39	-0.16	71	1
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	20	74	44	-8	1	-24	0.12	-0.05	2	0.32	-0.31	51	6
Bend	25	76	49	-4	22	-8	-	-0.07	-	0.49	0.02	104	2
Burns	21	79	46	-6	5	-19	0.02	-0.08	1	0.20	-0.36	36	7
Christmas Valley ⁸	18	77	45	-12	4	-42	0.19	0.05	3	0.81	0.23	140	5
Klamath Falls	24	75	47	-10	7	-38	0.08	-0.06	1	0.15	-0.40	27	3
Klamath Falls ⁸	23	76	47	-10	9	-36	0.12	-0.02	2	0.15	-0.40	27	4
Lakeview	19	75	46	-9	2	-36	0.02	-0.15	1	0.56	-0.07	89	4
Lorella ⁸	22	78	46	-10	5	-40	0.25	0.11	2	0.41	-0.14	75	3
Redmond	22	82	50	-5	17	-18	-	-0.07	-	0.34	-0.07	83	1
Warden ⁸	18	77	44	-12	2	-43	0.08	-0.06	2	0.19	-0.36	35	5
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	21	77	47	-7	3	-29	0.09	-0.05	2	0.36	-0.38	49	4
Joseph	27	75	47	-3	11	-7	0.20	-0.15	1	1.18	-0.18	87	5
La Grande	27	81	51	-6	16	-30	0.01	-0.22	1	0.07	-0.88	7	3
Union	29	80	50	-4	18	-18	0.04	-0.17	1	0.46	-0.58	44	2
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	33	79	54	-5	33	-27	0.02	-0.05	1	0.69	0.16	130	4
Rome	27	80	51	-6	19	-26	-	-0.12	-	1.25	0.67	216	8

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2007.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.